The red gold rush: the impact of governance styles on value chains and the well-being of lobster fishers in the wider Caribbean

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Appendix C: Well-Being Questionnaire

A. Biographical Information
1. name?
2. Age? ................. years.
3. gender □ Male □ Female
4. Marital Status □ Married □ Single □ Divorced □ Widow

5. How many dependents do you have?
6. How many years have you been fishing? Answer: ............. years
7. where are you born?
8. Where do you live?
9. was/is your dad a fisherman?

B. Educational Training
10. until what age did you attend school?
11. any other type of training?

C. Fishing Metier
12. postion in the fishery
13. target species
14. gear type (traps, diving (free lung or air compressor, nets?)
15. absence from home, days x per week, month?
16. average catch of lobster per week?
17. catch of last week?
18. value of catch? How much per pound? (is that whole or tailed)
19. how many times per week do you go out and for how long?
20. does this differ per season (or the same throughout the year?)

Income and trade relations
21. what species do you catch most in value of income? (lobster, fish or conch)
22. income from lobsters on average per week?
23. average income per week totally? (after expenses)
24. difference per season? What months are really good/ what months are really bad? Why so?

25. in case of traps: how many traps do you have?

26. investment in USD per trap

27. did you need to take out a loan to invest in the traps?

28. are you indebted to anyone (vendor, middlemen, cooperative)

29. has a family member invested in your traps (wife, sister auntie etc)?

30. diver: how is the payment? (how much for diver-s, helper and owner? In percentage)

31. what are the average fishing costs for you per trip? (gasoline, seafood, etc)

32. who do you sell your lobster to? (vendor, middlemen etc.)

33. do you always sell to the same vendor? For how long have you been selling to this person?

34. do you get paid right away or does payment come later?

35. who do you sell your fish to? (vendor, middlemen etc.)
   always the same person?

36. is that family of yours?

37. do you get paid right away or does payment come later?

38. other sources of income?

39. other sources of income in the household?

40. what do you like better to eat? Lobster or fish or conch?

**Territoriality and safety**

41. where do you go fishing? (bank/inshore)

42. do you always fish in the same area/

43. Are there conflicts between different fishing groups? (e.g divers-trappers, trappers-trappers (emptying of traps), or with big boats)?

44. what do you think should be done about this?

45. how many hours do you spend to get to the fishing ground?

46. bring life jackets, GPS or radio?
Management and cooperatives
47. what do you think of the role of the government (fisheries administration)?

48. what could be better?

49. are you member of a fishing cooperative? Why yes, why not?

50. for how long? (in case of yes)?

Resource sustainability and IUU fishing
51. do you think the lobster fishery is doing well?

52. what should be done to improve the fishery?

53. who should play a role in improving the fishery (the gm, the fishers, the cooperatives, the vendors etc)

54. of 10 fishers how many catch berried lobsters?

55. of 10 fishers how many do you think will bring in undersized lobster?

56. of 10 fishers how many do you think still bring in lobster during the closed season?

57. how do you see the future of the lobster fishery?

58. how do you see your future? Where do you want to go? (owner of boat/out of fishing etc)

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1These major transformations of world fisheries are part of a larger development from traditional to industrial society, a process that started in Europe around 1780 (Smith, 2004). Major technological innovations affected fisheries in the late nineteenth century, such as the invention of steam-powered vessels, refrigeration, the auction system, fast and efficient rail and road transportation facilities (Smith 2000 in Bavinck, 2011: 2). The increase in fisheries production worldwide since the 1950s can therefore be traced back to these new technological possibilities, freezer facilities, the expansion of seafood markets, and increasing consumer demand for seafood products (Bavinck, 2011). The growth in global fish production and trade was fed by huge increases in effort, notably in industrialized fisheries (Kooiman et al., 2005: 27).

ii In the 1980s, attention further shifted from the market to the community level, and concepts of participation, citizenship, and mobilization became important elements in the discussion (Nijten 2004: 104).
development of the role of the state and its consequent influence in the governance process is still being debated. Governments have often failed to live up to expectations, which has resulted in analysis of weak, unstable, collapsing, or failed states (Kooiman et al. 2005). As the government failed to carry out its functions, other actors moved into prominent positions and now claim to be integral to the policy framework (Marinetto 2003; Kooiman et al. 2005). Governance is therefore associated with a decline in the central government’s ability to steer society, according to a number of scholars (Jordan et al. 2005). Pierre and Peters (2000: 83-91) contend that the state is losing its steering ability as control is displaced: upwards to regional and international organizations; downwards to regional and decentralized localities; and outwards to international corporations, non-governmental organizations, and other private or quasi-private bodies (Jordan et al. 2005). Those who argue for minimal or limited state involvement therefore claim, according to Kooiman et al. (2005), the “often-quoted phrase ‘less government and more governance.’”

Evans (1995) has written extensively on different state regimes. He claims that in some nations, like Zaire, the state is predatory, while in others, like Korea, it is promoting industrial transformation. In Brazil and India, it is in between, sometimes helping, and sometimes hindering (Evans 1995).

World systems theory developed out of dependency theory that developed in the 1970s. From a dependency perspective, the spread of European “civilization” to the rest of the world was accompanied by the extraction of raw materials, the draining of social resources, and a loss of control over the basic institutions of society (hence arises the notion of “dependency”) (Peet and Hartwick 2009: 16). They claimed that instead of underdeveloped regions being developed by their connections to the center of the global capitalist order, the peripheral societies were actually underdeveloped as a result of their connection (ibid.). The poverty and backwardness of developing countries is thus caused by their peripheral position. The Wider Caribbean is a good example of such a situation, as it has since the “discovery” of the New World been connected to Europe through its trade. The trade between the two continents has historically not been viewed as serving the countries of origin, and its development model has been characterized by peripheral capitalism and external dependence (Grugel 1995). The economies in the region are generally small, economically vulnerable, their location is on the periphery of the international system, accompanied by an excessive influence of external agents, and often there is a tendency towards extreme concentration of power internally (Grugel 1995). The benefits derived from exports have been concentrated in the hands of a restricted elite, or benefits have flowed back to the Northern trade partners. These types of inequalities in the world’s economies have provoked the development of dependency theory. The theory was holistic in the sense that it attempted to place a nation in a larger global system and stressed the structural causes of underdevelopment rather than causes that are internal to a peripheral society. Thus, contrary to the view of modernization theory, dependency theorists have argued that development in Europe and the US was essentially the result of underdevelopment in the non-European world (Peet and Hartwick 2009). World system theory has developed out of dependency theory, but rather than using the bipolar model with only periphery and central nations, world system theory argues there are in fact three classifications. It argues that “the skewed power relations between the wealthy and industrialized ‘North’ and the poor and underdeveloped ‘South’ have resulted in a world-economy with core, semi-peripheral, and peripheral areas” (Wallerstein 1979 in Van Helvoort 2009: 33). Core countries have complex production systems, high levels of capital accumulation, are administratively well organized, and are militarily powerful, while peripheral countries show the opposite characteristics.

In 1995, the oldest lobster fossil, believed to be the ancestor of the genus Palinurus currently living off the coast of Africa, was found in Mexico dating back to 110 million years ago. And even when the Tyrannosaurs were wiped out after the Cretaceous period around 65 million years ago, lobsters survived.

A cookbook by the Roman Apicius (1st-4th century AD) included recipes for broiled lobster, boiled lobster with cumin sauce, a lobster dish of minced balls of the tail meat, and lobster with wine.

For instance Andries de Coninck, Still Life with Lobster and Fruit (1640s), Jan Davidz de Heem, A Still-life with Fruit and Lobster (1650), Willem Kalf Still Life with Lobster, Drinking Horn and Glasses (c. 1653), and Abraham van Beyeren Banquet Still-life (c. 1660).


The story of the indentured servants taking their owners to court and winning a judgment that they didn’t have to eat lobster more than thrice a week (Woodard, 2004: 170) has also been told in other versions: e.g., the law protecting prisoners from having to eat lobsters more than once a week (Wallace, 2005: 237-238).

San Andrés is a Caribbean island close to Corn Island, belonging to Colombia.

The CARICOM was established in 1973.

Although Queen Elizabeth II is officially the chief of state, she appoints a governor general to represent her as the head of state. The governor general’s role, however, is largely ceremonial, as the real executive power is vested in the cabinet, led by the prime minister.
I presume there are female lobster importers, but I have yet to meet one, which is why I refer to “he.”

Sodium sulfate is used during processing.

However, after the economic crisis Nicaragua started exporting more to the EU.

The Bahamas does not have to pay import duties as they are a member of the British Commonwealth. With a few exceptions there is normally a 5% import tariff to access the EU market. Cuba exports lobster to the EU and Asia, as they hold a leading and unique position in the Caribbean in the live lobster trade.